

24. (Twice Amended) A method for producing [a] the coated carbon material [characterized in that] of claim 1 comprising calcining the coated carbon material [produced according to claim 1 is calcined] for carbonization at a heating rate of up to 10°C/hr.

25. (Twice Amended) A method for producing [a] the coated carbon material [characterized in that] of claim 1 comprising calcining the coated carbon material [produced according to claim 1 is calcined] for carbonization in vacuo.

26. (Twice Amended) A method for producing [a] the coated carbon material [characterized in that] of claim 1 comprising calcining the coated carbon material [produced according to claim 1 is calcined] for graphitization.

27. (Twice Amended) A method for producing [a] the coated carbon material [according to] of claim 23, wherein a surface of the coated carbon material is pretreated for oxidation before calcination of the coated carbon material.

Please cancel claims 28-37 without prejudice.

Please add new claim 40 as follows:

~40. The carbon material according to claim 1 having a covering ratio defined as a weight ratio of coat-forming carbon material/(core carbon material + coat-forming carbon material) of  $0 < c \leq 0.3$ .